



August 10, 2004

**Statement by U.S. Attorney Robert C. Corrente
concerning Court of Appeals Decision in U.S. v. Cianci, et. al.**

The First Circuit Court of Appeals today affirmed the convictions of Vincent Cianci and his codefendants on racketeering and related charges. The Court upheld the jury verdicts, which found that Vincent Cianci engaged in a racketeering conspiracy run out of Providence city Hall, and that Frank Corrente and Richard Autiello participated in that racketeering enterprise.

I want to take this opportunity to commend Assistant U.S. Attorney Donald Lockhart for the outstanding job he did in presenting this complex case to the First Circuit panel. Mr. Lockhart's work capped a long and tireless effort by the Cianci prosecution team, led by Assistant U.S. Attorney's Richard Rose and Terrence Donnelly – and the agents who investigated the case – led by the FBI Special Agent Dennis Aiken and the Rhode Island State Police.

I also extend my congratulations to Meg Curran and Craig Moore, who, as U.S. Attorney and First Assistant U.S. Attorney, skillfully oversaw the prosecution of this case.

This has been a long and difficult case. As you can see in today's decision, there are sentencing and forfeiture issues still to be resolved, principally those relating to the Supreme Court's decision in Blakely v. Washington.

The message today, however, is that U.S. v. Cianci was fairly tried and the defendants were properly convicted.